

SENATE RESOLUTION 91

By Dixon

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Walter W. Diggs for
laudable service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those
citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community
leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Walter W. Diggs, who currently serves as
the Administrative Surveyor for the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare
Organizations; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Washington & Lee University, he earned his Bachelor of
Science degree from that institution in 1954; he earned a Master's degree in Hospital
Administration from the University of Minnesota in 1956; and

WHEREAS, upon earning his graduate degree, Mr. Diggs enrolled in the United States
Navy Officer Candidate School, Class 29; when he had completed his coursework, he accepted
a position with the United States Naval Hospital, where he served for three years as a
Lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps of the United States Naval Reserves; and

WHEREAS, for the next 34 years, he worked in the field of Health Administration as a Professor, an Administrator, and a Consultant; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Diggs worked with a number of different groups, including the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Memphis Mental Health Institution, the University of Memphis, the University of Tennessee, and the Johns Hopkins Hospital; and

WHEREAS, he worked for JCAHO from 1981 through 1988, and in 1993, he accepted the position of Field and Regional Representative with the organization; his most important duties include surveying the standards for Hospitals, Long Term and Ambulatory Care; and

WHEREAS, he has worked in Standards Interpretation at the Joint Commission, and as a Regional Representative for the Tennessee Continuous Survey Readiness Program; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work with JCAHO, Mr. Diggs still finds time to lend his remarkable talents to such notable causes as the Memphis Visiting Nurse Association, the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Memphis, and the Board of Trustees for St. Joseph Hospital, which he serves as Secretary; and

WHEREAS, he also serves his community as Chairman of the Mayor's Advisory Committee for the Handicapped, Program Chairman of the Memphis Public Issues Forum and the Shelby County Mental Health Planning Council, and President of Ballet South and the Memphis Ballet; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Mr. Diggs has been recognized as a Life Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, as well as in *Who's Who in Medicine and Health Care*, *Who's Who in Religion*, and *Who's Who in America*; and

WHEREAS, he epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Walter W. Diggs for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Walter W. Diggs for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.